

COFFEE AND TEA LISTED FOR TAX IN REVENUE BILL

Measure as Reported Fixes One and Two Cents a Pound

FREE LIST ABOLISHED

WASHINGTON, May 9. The \$1,800,000,000 war taxation bill was formally ordered reported to the House today by the Ways and Means Committee. Chairman Kitchin said the report would be presented later today and would have the unanimous and nonpartisan backing of the committee.

The levying of a consumption tax of one cent on coffee and two cents on tea was voted today by the committee. This was the only essential change made in the bill as made public in its fundamental provision.

Representative J. Hampton Moore, Republican, of Pennsylvania, voted "present" today. He announced he would not file a minority report on the bill, but told the committee he regarded some of the taxes in the bill as inequitable. A tax on cotton was one of the things Moore desired to go into the measure.

An agreement was reached to take up the bill tomorrow morning. By unanimous consent the House will meet tomorrow at 11 o'clock to get an early start on the measure.

Answering a question by Minority Leader Mann, Chairman Kitchin, Democratic floor leader, said he hoped to pass the bill Saturday night. Mr. Mann said he believed the debate would run longer than that time, as members of the House would not have opportunity to read the report of the committee until tomorrow and the importance of the bill demanded close scrutiny and adequate discussion.

TEA AND COFFEE TAXES

The paragraph covering tea and coffee taxes reads:

That upon all coffee or tea heretofore imported into the United States which are held on May 10, 1917, or any day between such date and the day succeeding the day this act is passed, by any person, corporation, partnership or association (except a retailer who does not sell coffee or tea at wholesale) and intended for sale, there shall be levied, assessed, collected and paid a tax of one cent per pound in the case of coffee and of two cents per pound in the case of tea.

No consumption tax on sugar was included, although there has been before the committee proposals for a tax on sugar, tea and coffee.

NO FREE LIST

The most striking feature of the bill is the decision of the committee to place a 10 per cent ad valorem duty on all articles now on the free list, under the Underwood tariff, and to provide for a horizontal increase of 10 per cent in the present tariff schedules.

This is a departure from the Democratic

Revised Income Tax Rate to Raise Revenue for War

THIS table is based on an exemption of \$2000 for heads of families. For persons unmarried and not heads of families the exemption is \$1000:

TOTAL TAX	Under original law.	Law of Sept. 8, 1916.	Under proposed revision.
Income, \$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1,000.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
2,000.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
3,000.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
4,000.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
5,000.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
6,000.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
7,000.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
8,000.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
9,000.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
10,000.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
11,000.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12,000.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
13,000.00	13.00	13.00	13.00
14,000.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
15,000.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
16,000.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
17,000.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
18,000.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
19,000.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
20,000.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
21,000.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
22,000.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
23,000.00	23.00	23.00	23.00
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96,000.00	96.00	96.00	96.00
97,000.00	97.00	97.00	97.00
98,000.00	98.00	98.00	98.00
99,000.00	99.00	99.00	99.00
100,000.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

policy, but was found necessary to raise the revenue. It is expected \$200,000,000 will be raised at the custom houses. The committee decided upon a tax of 10 per cent on excess profits over 8 per cent, with an exemption of \$5000. Income taxes were increased. The income taxes were made retroactive to the calendar year of 1916.

Increase calculated to raise \$100,000,000 were made in inheritances, while the retroactive feature of the income taxes is expected to yield an additional \$100,000,000.

Whisky taxes were placed at \$2.25 a gallon, and beer at \$2.75 a barrel, the highest marks in the history of the Government.

Automobiles and pleasure boats are to be taxed on a basis of 5 per cent at the factory.

Most of the other taxes have been previously outlined.

The rich man must pay heavily, but the burden is proportionately distributed all down the line by the bill. While it is not sufficient to carry out the President's idea of a "pay-as-you-go" war, it will meet the \$2,000,000,000 short-term certificates of indebtedness in less than eighteen months.

The new tax will take one-third of incomes of \$50,000, and runs up to where it takes virtually half of incomes over \$2,000,000.

Incomes, inheritances and excess profits constitute the framework of the bill. The rich man is hit hard, whether his wealth be income from investments, estates left by his ancestors or profits above 8 per cent on the capital invested in business.

The bill, however, goes from the big things to little things, affecting virtually every man, woman and child in America.

GANS, CONVERTED, PUSHES DOPE BILL

Maybe Pressure, or Change of Heart, Assures 'Teeth' in Measure

RETRACTS HIS DEFIANCE

By a Staff Correspondent HARRISBURG, May 9.

The last obstacle to the enactment of drastic anti-narcotic legislation was removed today.

Yesterday Sigmund J. Gans, chairman of the House Committee on Public Health and Sanitation, expressed himself as indifferent to the passage of any law curbing the drug traffic in Pennsylvania, but over night he seemed to have had a change of heart or succumbed to the pressure of public sentiment. Today he gave his pledge that he would favor a bill "with teeth."

Gans is a Penrose-McNichol representative from the Thirty-eighth Ward, Philadelphia. Yesterday he proclaimed his independence of popular sentiment in the following terms:

The dope bill is bothering everybody in the Legislature except me. You can be sure that there will be an entirely new bill reported out of committee, if any. Whether the new bill is reported out or not depends upon the weather. If it is fair, it may be reported out. If it is raining, it will not be reported out.

In these laconic sentences Gans gave expression to his entire indifference as to the fate of the proposed anti-narcotic legislation. His entire change of front today, however, furnished assurance that the last obstacle to the measure was removed.

The Public Health and Sanitation Committee of the House will meet next week, and will report out a bill that is a combination of the Vore and Whitaker bills, and that will be the most stringent of any law now in force anywhere else in the country, if the expectations of its sponsors are realized.

The committee met late yesterday, but failed to take any definite action on an anti-dope bill, because of the absence of Representative Sullivan, of Allegheny. Sullivan had the new bill, and had agreed to offer it in committee in place of one he introduced at the request of Captain Archibald Mackerrell, of the Pittsburgh detective bureau.

Sullivan is ill this week, and therefore was unable to attend yesterday's meeting. He will be here next week, however.

Apparently all of the forces in the committee and in the legislature at large have united finally behind a stringent bill. The druggists' lobby that has been active for several weeks abandoned its fight.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for next Tuesday afternoon, when Sullivan will offer the new bill. It will be reported out with a favorable recommendation.

The new measure will be known as the Vore-Whitaker bill, as it embraces all of the strong features of both the Vore and the Whitaker measures that were introduced early in the session after their sponsors had made a thorough investigation of the need for a drastic law that would put an end to the dope traffic.

French Mow Down Foe on Aisne Heights

Continued from Page One

line of the German line with prodigious massing of reserves. The German artillery is pouring a flood of shells over the British positions.

The British artillery is endlessly blasting away at the enemy. The fighting is for the most part in waves of small sections of troops, who dash forward, are met by German detachments and who clinch in hand-to-hand fighting. Positions are advanced and pulled back as the tide swings from side to side.

Northeast of Hargicourt the German lines were bent back slightly by the British thrusts.

Northeast of Gavrelle the Germans made strong attacks, but were repulsed. The new British positions west of Fresnoy have been consolidated and strengthened.

There is savage fighting all along the front from a point south of Lens to the sector of Bullecourt.

The text of the War Office statement follows:

We have advanced slightly northeast of Hargicourt. An enemy attack northeast of Gavrelle was completely repulsed. Hostile forces concentrating for an attack north of Fresnoy were dispersed by our artillery fire. We have improved our positions west of Fresnoy. By counter-attacks we have regained part of the ground lost in that sector yesterday.

While the Germans were thus endeavoring to prevent realization of the British scheme of crumpling the northern pivotal point of their line they were staging another tremendous counter-offensive movement against a similar menace on the southern pivot, in the French hold on Chemin des Dames.

The earlier statement given out by the British War Office follows:

"Around Fresnoy hostile forces concentrating for an attack to the north were dispersed by our artillery," the British commander-in-chief reported.

"To the west we improved our position and a night counter-attack regained us a portion of the ground lost yesterday morning."

"At night slightly northeast of Hargicourt we advanced our position," the report continued. "Northeast of Gavrelle village yesterday evening the enemy attacked, but was broken up by our barrage and machine-gun fire, being completely repulsed."

"East of Armentieres early this morning an enemy raiding party was driven off." Bullecourt, encircled on three sides by Australian troops, was about to fall today to the British battering ram against the so-called German "Oppy line" running from around Oppy to Queant. Penetration of the German positions at Bullecourt, it was believed here, would imperil the German front on the Oppy line and possibly force a retreat for its entire distance. In the belief of military experts it might fore-

cast abandonment to the north of the coal region and around Lens.

The Bullecourt operations were held today to be of more importance than those of Fresnoy. Recapture of the city around Fresnoy, however, is a setback to the British aim at circling the end of the Oppy line. Front dispatches today indicated the issue at Fresnoy had by no means been decided. British troops are endeavoring by violent artillery fire and repeated infantry assaults to shake the German grip on the village.

The Vimy Ridge is the strategic strip

of high ground running south from the Lens sector to the east of Arras. It was captured by storm by the Canadians in the first day of the new British offensive on April 9 and 10, and this success opened up the way for other British successes in the days that followed.

Vimy Ridge was a strong link in the defenses of the northern end of the Hindenburg line, and formed a natural barrier south of Lens. The first real menace to the German's grip on the rich coal fields of northern France was seen when the Canadians swept the Germans from

the ridge and planted the British above it.

Fresnoy had been stormed by the Canadians on May 3, and ever since fighting had raged there. After severe ties with infantry and artillery, the Germans suddenly threw fresh troops into the fray and drove the exhausted Canadians back. But the Germans had to pay heavily for this success. In the wake of the advancing wave of the attacking units, innumerable corpses, victims of the British artillery and machine guns.

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It's toasted

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Mother's Day

Founder of Mother's Day Sends a Patriotic Message to Philadelphia Mothers

IN SUNDAY'S Public Ledger Miss Anna Jarvis, the Philadelphia woman who founded Mother's Day, sends a message to mothers.

It is a clarion call to American women. Miss Jarvis tells them that their sons are needed in America's defense, and that mothers along with husbands, sons and brothers must line up as brave and enduring patriots.

It is a message every mother should read. It appears exclusively in the Public Ledger on Mother's Day—next Saturday.

PUBLIC LEDGER